

London Aug. 8 1859.

My dear Friend May =

I have to thank you for so promptly communicating to me the wishes of several members of the ~~Ex~~ Committee, informally expressed, that I would make the Western Tour; & that it should be properly compensated - Since then, an arrangement has been completed for defraying the charges, from the Hovey Fund, and I have corresponded with Mr. Jackson on the subject; and I believe all is now ready when the hour comes.

In your last but one to me, you asked me to write "once more," relative to the unfortunate misunderstandings we have had among us; & which I hope will soon be all adjusted. It has been my constant purpose to comply with your reasonable wish; but what with illnesses of my own, my Wife's, & my Brothers;



it has not yet been done - And now perhaps nothing is necessary, as between you & me.

It was gratifying to have you say you liked the spirit of my letter, to which yours was a reply. And to me it was the more gratifying, because I was not conscious when writing it, of any change of feeling on my own part, from that of all my letters before.

You and I are, to be sure, not the "eldest" soldiers in the warfare - but we have fought side by side long enough to know each other pretty well; And while I have even & always, held you in the very highest possible esteem, and never for a moment doubted your integrity & fidelity, I have also sought to deserve well of you, by imitating those virtues so conspicuous in your Anti-Slavery life, & so important to a successful prosecution of my Mission. But the "H. M." letters looked as though all



my efforts had resulted in Failure.

Only one or two of your letters have contained anything for me personally to regret. And those things are not now remembered in the least to your disadvantage.

As to my Resolutions, the complaint has never been that they were not passed - but that they were treated, as I thought, contemptuously - (as Garrison said once of Sumner in Congress, so significantly) "shrub'd." No notice was taken of them last winter in Boston, whatever. In New York I was "laid on the table," after some rather unduly calorical discussion, in which my name does not appear.

Only one word was seriously complained of in the Resolutions; and that I would most gladly have had ~~exchanged~~ for a better; because it was the positions, and not the hearts or motives of Chivers & Beecher that I wished to brand. And had a motion been made to substitute



Impediments or obstacles  
for enemies, I would have sec-  
onded it & voted for it heart &  
voice. But no such Motion  
was made.

Now were any Resolutions passed  
criticising, much less censur-  
ing the parties in question. But  
on the contrary, there was plenty of  
apology offered for them, & of dis-  
approval of me. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July &  
1<sup>st</sup> of August Celebrations also left  
the questionable elements uncon-  
demned, & unnoticed, by Resolutions.  
Indeed, I do not know when we have  
in our first class gatherings, registered  
much of a testimony against them.  
In 1860, we may deeply regret it; for  
be the Republican Candidate, Bates,  
Bell, Botts, or Beelzebub, he will  
get the votes of multitudes, whom  
perhaps we might have saved  
from so damning a sin., but  
who will now be seduced  
into it, by our silence, or worse  
than silence. We can become far  
more dangerous than Daniel Webster  
or Dr. Adams. We are believed; but they are not.



You thought me too severe on Dr. Chubb, in saying, in opposition to Oliver Johnson, that he had not taken a single Anti-Slavery Step, instead of "The Very Highest Anti-Slavery-ground," as Johnson told the British Abolitionists. I must however adhere to my own opinion. Until he can see as great a sin in Slave-getting, & Slave-trading, and Slave-driving, as in a heretical Sabbath-Notion, I do not expect he will take what I call an Anti-Slavery Step. He will excommunicate his Dr. Hatches for the latter, and still hug the Dr. Plumers and Mc'Sluaines to his own Christian bosom, while practicing, or tolerating all the former, with a gusto that should make the very fiends to shew with loathing and disgust.

Mr. Phillips says of those whom I designated in the Resolutions, "They have yet to make their first protest in action, against the principal sin of these States." So it seems to me.



One word more. When the Agents  
were transferred to Josiah Moody  
as their Supervisor, he  
being at best a green hand,  
and a comparative stranger too,  
it was hard for me to be recon-  
ciled to what seemed to me a  
sort of degradation. When afterwards,  
you were entrusted with the  
Commission of General Agent, there  
was I think, a general joy.

Now, though I have the very high-  
est respect for our young friend  
Hegwood, & will give him every  
hint and suggestion in my power  
to make his position both profitable  
& pleasant, & shall most scrupulously  
& religiously consult the best interests  
of the National & all Auxiliary Societies, as  
I would serve the Slave & Honor God.  
Still, I do not care to be again removed  
and placed under the direction of  
another, of any other than yourself.  
As I have already said, you & I have  
been long friends & co-workers. While  
life lasts, I hope we may be the more.  
If you can view the change of General  
Agent as I do, you will not let my



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fastidious in this matter prevented it. It seems to me that true Freedom & genuine self-respect require that we have some voice in the election of those who are to give direction to our movements. And it is far more to assert that principle than any thing else, that I pursue such a course at this time. Miss Mattineau must understand that old and scarred veterans cannot be read out of our ranks so easily as she presumed. And to me it seems equally important to the integrity & consistency of our platform, that those same old veterans have some voice in determining whether they will be transferred from one General Agent to another, without a word of Notice or Consultation.

I am sorry to detain you so long. I am afraid you will wish



you had not asked me to write  
you again. This letter is wholly  
between ourselves - I can not let  
whom you show it; but what  
I mean simply is, that it is only  
to you that I speak these things,  
and not to other <sup>persons or</sup> agents; & still  
less, at the present disturbed  
moment, to raise any new issue  
or ~~embarrass~~ in the least degree  
the speediest adjustment of all dif-  
ficulties now pending. I wished  
you to know all that is in my  
heart, and now you do. A glo-  
rious motto is ours:

"Without Concealment. Without Diplomacy."  
And I wish ever to act up to it.

Pardon this very long letter.  
Its spirit, you will not disapprove.  
Its philosophy, is of course, open to criti-  
cism - My fastidiousness may  
put me, in your estimation, by  
the side of Abby Folsom; but  
let it not place me outside the  
pale of your friendship - For though  
you may have many more valuable  
friends, you have none more faithful  
than is - ever & always yours  
Parker Pillsbury.